UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/53/80
9 March 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-third session
Item 113 of the preliminary list*

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Letter dated 9 March 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that on 15 January 1998, the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, issued a decree regarding the arrangements for celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The decree, inter alia, requests that the Parliament of Georgia declare 1998 the Year of Human Rights and announce 10 December 1998 as a national holiday.

The document also provides that the Ministry of Education should submit to the Government of Georgia a programme on raising awareness of human rights and sponsor conferences, seminars and debates on human rights issues in institutions of secondary and higher learning throughout the country.

The Attorney General of Georgia has been called upon to hold meetings of relevant bodies to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to develop further the legal framework in the field of human rights.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of State Security have been ordered to work out the educational programme on human rights issues and to hold systematic staff meetings with a view to establishing strict control over the observance of and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Georgian Television and Broadcasting Corporation has been requested to cover steadfastly the human rights situation in the country with a view to

* A/53/50.

98-05932 (E) 100398

/...

keeping the population informed of the developments in the field of human rights.

The control over the implementation of the plan for action that envisions the holding of various conferences on human rights issues during 1998 has been delegated to the Deputy National Security Adviser on Human Rights Questions.

May I ask your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the General Assembly under item 113 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative